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ABSTRACT

This information sampler was compiled to assist students in their study of North Carolina. Every year North Carolina students must complete a special project on their state. The sampler was designed to introduce students to the people, places, and events that have shaped North Carolina's history. Topics in the sampler include state symbols, people, economy, transportation, military installations, state government, travel and tourism, education, land, climate, North Carolina "firsts," geography of North Carolina (coastal plain, Piedmont, and mountains), famous North Carolinians, state flag, state seal, state song, maps, highlights from North Carolina history. Addresses to websites about North Carolina also are provided. (BT)

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Student Sampler

Facts in Brief on North Carolina

ED 431 683

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Public Schools of North Carolina
State Board of Education • Department of Public Instruction
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Student Sampler

Facts in Brief on North Carolina

is produced by

Elementary Social Studies
Instructional Services Division
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

and

Division of Tourism, Film and Sports Development
North Carolina Department of Commerce

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Public Schools of North Carolina

State Board of Education
Phillip J. Kirk, Jr., Chairman

Department of Public Instruction
Michael E. Ward, State Superintendent

Dear Friend of North Carolina,

Thanks for taking the time and effort to inquire about one of my favorite subjects – North Carolina. I have always been involved in activities, from the school house to the state house, that inform and educate others about the many strengths of our state. As a former teacher, newspaper reporter, state senator, and lobbyist, I have devoted many years to public service in North Carolina. Through these experiences, I have learned that one of our greatest resources is an informed and involved citizenry. As a student engaged in learning about all aspects of our state – its geography, history, government, and economy – you have begun that important journey to becoming a better informed citizen.

You may soon learn many fascinating facts and figures about our state – the height of the tallest lighthouse, the name of the oldest river, the location of the largest city, and the destination of chief exports. You will discover a wealth of cultural and recreational opportunities in regions rich in resources and as diverse as the people who inhabit them. You will get to know the native sons and daughters, past and present, who have contributed to the proud heritage we claim. But don't get lost in the names and numbers, dates and deeds, tales and trivia. Read between the lines and beyond the pages. Use this resource to locate other sources for in-depth study. Don't just do a project, develop a deep appreciation for one of my favorite subjects – North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Phillip J. Kirk, Jr.

Phillip J. Kirk, Jr.

Public Schools of North Carolina

State Board of Education
Phillip J. Kirk, Jr., Chairman

Department of Public Instruction
Michael E. Ward, State Superintendent

Dear Student,

You are one of the thousands of students who receive an interesting and challenging assignment each school year – to complete a special project on North Carolina. The majority are in-state fourth or eighth graders studying "The Tar Heel State" in their social studies classes. Numerous other students at a variety of grade levels from states across our nation also engage in research for reports about our state.

This student sampler has been compiled to assist you in your study of our North Carolina. It is designed to introduce you to the people, places and events that have shaped our history. You will also learn about the resources that will help to determine the future of our great state.

A great deal of information is provided in this sampler but it is only a beginning point for learning about North Carolina. Use the addresses, phone numbers and web sites to further research state government, historical sites, recreational opportunities or the university system. Whether you're searching for state symbols or learning about landforms, we hope you find this resource useful and enjoy your study of the state we call home.

Thanks for your interest in North Carolina and good luck in your research efforts.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Ward

Michael E. Ward

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
RALEIGH 27603-8001

JAMES B. HUNT JR.
GOVERNOR

Dear North Carolina Scholar:

Thank you for requesting the accompanying information about North Carolina. It is my pleasure to share with you some interesting aspects of the fascinating history, cultural diversity, and geographic variety our state offers.

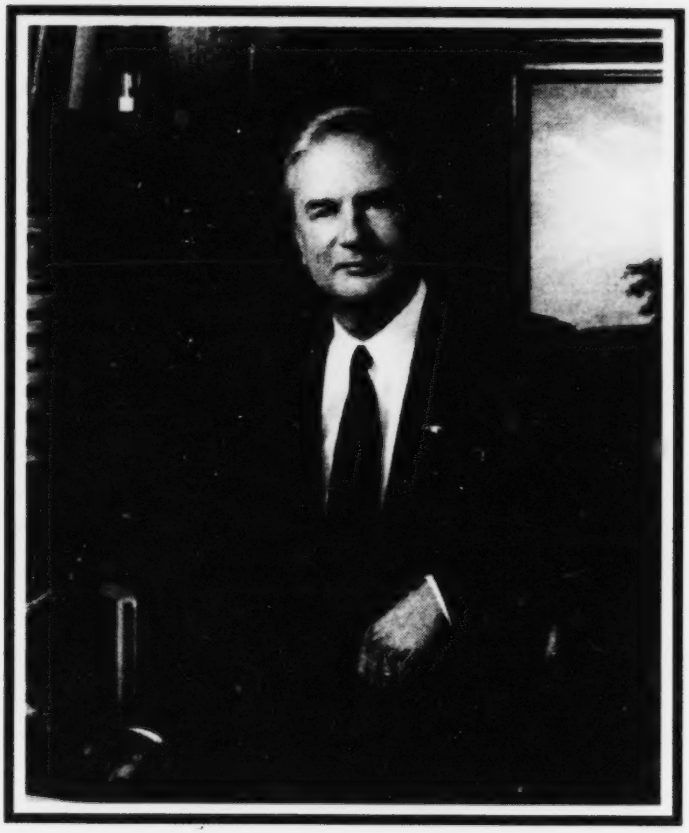
Among these pages is a depiction of The Great Seal of the State of North Carolina. On it appears our state motto, "Esse Quam Videri," Latin words meaning "To be rather than to seem." These words are as important today as they ever were. As a state and as a people, the state motto describes the way we want to live, the way we want to work, and the way we want to raise our families.

I wish for you every success in your efforts to learn about North Carolina.

My warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

James B. Hunt Jr.



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Governor James B. Hunt, Jr.
North Carolina

Governor Jim Hunt has dedicated his historic fourth term as Governor to improving the lives of North Carolina's children, and is committed to ensuring that every child gets a quality public education.

Governor Hunt, who has spent his life working to improve education, believes it is the foundation of North Carolina's success, and that all North Carolinians – educators, business and community leaders, policymakers and parents – must rededicate themselves to meeting that challenge and responsibility.

As Governor from 1977 through 1985, Governor Hunt led North Carolina's education reform efforts. He set up the primary reading program, reduced class size, created dropout prevention programs and established the N. C. School of Science and Mathematics. As Lieutenant Governor from 1973 through 1977, he successfully pushed to make kindergarten available to every North Carolina child.

Governor Hunt helped establish and serves as Founding Chair of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, which is working to boost excellence in teaching. In addition, he was recently named chairman of the National Education Goals Panel, which was set up in 1990 to monitor the progress of "Goals 2000," an achievement plan developed during a summit of the nation's governors.

Governor Hunt also chairs the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future, which is looking for ways to bring the nation's best and brightest into the teaching profession. This 26 member commission brings together leaders from higher education, business, labor, and state government, as well as teachers and administrators.

For the next four years, Governor Hunt has laid out an *Agenda for Action* that focuses on giving children a healthy start in life and making North Carolina schools the best that they can be. Smart Start, the Governor's early childhood initiative, is providing higher quality day-care, more day-care slots, better trained teachers and preventive health screenings for thousands of North Carolina children.

The Excellent Schools Act – which Hunt built as the cornerstone of his 1997 legislative agenda and recently signed into law – will help North Carolina get and keep good teachers. It will raise standards for students and teachers and hold them accountable for meeting those standards; and it will raise teacher pay to the national average, using performance pay to ensure that the best teachers get the best salaries.

Governor Hunt's dedication and commitment to improving education has been recognized on the national level. The Governor has been awarded the prestigious James B. Conant Award, honoring him as the public leader in America contributing most significantly to public educational progress. He has also been named a National Education Association Friend of Education, past recipients of which include Lyndon Johnson, Hubert Humphrey, and Bill Clinton.

Governor Hunt's Cabinet

Department of Administration
Secretary Katie G. Dorsett
Administration Building
116 W. Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27603-8003
(919)733-7232 FAX: 733-9571

Department of Corrections
Secretary Mack Jarvis
Shore Building
214 W. Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27603-1337
(919)733-4926 FAX: 733-4790

Department of Cultural Resources
Secretary Betty R. McCain
Archives & History Building
109 E. Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2807
(919)733-4867 FAX: 733-1564

Department of Health & Human Resources
Secretary Dr. David Bruton
Adams Building
101 Blair Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603-2041
(919)733-4534 FAX: 715-4645

Department of Transportation
Secretary Norris Tolson
Transportation Building
1 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27611
(919)733-2520 FAX: 715-4088

Department of Commerce
Secretary Rick Carlisle
Education Building, 4th Floor
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27626
(919)733-4962 FAX: 715-9593

Department of Crime Control & Public Safety
Secretary Richard Moore
Archdale Building
512 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27604-1159
(919)733-2126 FAX: 733-0296

Department of Environment & Natural Resources
Secretary Wayne McDevit
Archdale Building
512 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27604-1148
(919)715-4101 FAX: 733-0513

Department of Revenue
Secretary Muriel Offerman
Revenue Building
501 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27604-8001
(919)733-7211 FAX: 733-0023

North Carolina Council of State

Governor
James B. Hunt, Jr.
Administration Building
116 W. Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27603-8001
(919)733-4240 FAX: 733-5166

Executive Mansion
200 N. Blount Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-1093
(919)733-3871

Lieutenant Governor
Dennis A. Wicker
Administration Building
116 W. Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27603-8006
(919)733-7350 FAX: 733-6595

Secretary of State
Elaine F. Marshall
Legislative Office Building
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603
(919)733-5140

State Treasurer
Harlan E. Boyles
Albemarle Building
325 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603-1388
(919)733-3951 FAX: 733-9586

Superintendent of Public Instruction
Michael E. Ward
Education Building
301 N. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
(919)715-1299

Attorney General
Michael F. Easley
Justice Building
2 East Morgan Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-1497
(919)733-3377

Commissioner of Agriculture & Consumer Services
James A. Graham
Agriculture Building
2 West Edenton Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-1094
(919)733-7125

Commissioner of Insurance
James E. Long
Dobbs Building
430 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603-5908
(919)733-7343

Commissioner of Labor
Harry E. Payne
Labor Building
4 W. Edenton Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-1092
(919)733-7166 FAX: 733-6197

State Auditor
Ralph Campbell, Jr.
Legislative Office Building
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603-5903
(919)733-3217 FAX: 733-8443

General Information about North Carolina

Statehood: November 21, 1789, the 12th state
State Capital: Raleigh (established 1792)
State Colors: Blue and Red
State Motto: Esse Quam Videri (To Be Rather Than to Seem)
State Nickname: The Tar Heel State
Name Origin: From Latin "Carolus" in honor of King Charles I of England
State Song: The Old North State; words written by William Gaston, music collected and arranged by Mrs. E. E. Randolph

State Symbols

State Beverage: Milk
State Bird: Cardinal
State Boat: Shad Boat
State Dog: Plott Hound
State Fish: Channel Bass
State Flower: Dogwood
State Insect: Honey Bee
State Mammal: Gray Squirrel
State Reptile: Eastern Box Turtle
State Rock: Granite
State Shell: Scotch Bonnet
State Stone: Emerald
State Tree: Pine
State Vegetable: Sweet Potato

Fascinating Facts about North Carolina

- Albemarle Sound is the largest freshwater sound in the world.
- Oregon Inlet and Hatteras Inlet were both created during a severe hurricane in September 1846.
- Snow has been recorded on Mount Mitchell, the highest peak in eastern America, in every month of the year.
- The New River, located in the Appalachian Mountains of Ashe County, is the oldest river in the nation and the second oldest in the world.
- The Uwharrie Mountains in Davidson County are thought to be the oldest mountains in North America and are among the oldest in the world - 600 million years old.
- At 208 feet, the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse on the Outer Banks is the tallest lighthouse in the United States.
- The tallest natural sand dune on the east coast is Jockey's Ridge at Nags Head, which stands 110-140 feet, depending on the wind.
- The Venus' Flytrap, which eats and digests insects and other small living things, survives only in an approximate 100-mile area located near Wilmington.

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People

Population: 7.1 million
Rank Among States: 10th
Projected Growth: 7.5 million by year 2000
Distribution: 50% urban, 50% rural
Density: 126 persons per sq. mi.; US average 69 persons per sq. mi.

Largest Cities in North Carolina:

Charlotte	469,809
Raleigh	249,332
Greensboro	193,298
Winston-Salem	165,750
Durham	148,129

Source: NC Department of Commerce, US Bureau of the Census
For more information on population statistics, contact:
Office of State Planning
116 W. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2807
(919)733-4131

Economy

Chief Products

Agriculture: tobacco, broilers, turkeys, sweet potatoes, peanuts, hogs, soybeans, corn, dairy products
Manufacturing: tobacco products, chemicals, textiles, furniture, food products, machinery, electrical equipment
Mining: limestone, feldspar, mica, phosphate, sand, gravel, clay
Fishing: shrimp, blue crabs, clams, flounder, trout

For more information on NC products, contact:
NC Department of Agriculture &
Consumer Services
2 West Edenton St., Raleigh, NC 27601-1094
(919)733-7125

North Carolina Exports by Destination Continent, 1996

Asia	28.75%	South America	4.92%
Europe	27.94%	Australia	2.26%
North America	23.76%	Africa	1.00%
Central America	11.37%		

Source: Wachovia North Carolina World Trade Index
Dr. John Dutton, North Carolina State University
For more information on trade, contact:
NC Department of Commerce
301 N. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27626
(919)733-4962

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Transportation

Highways: 78,000 miles;
largest state-maintained system in the United States; often called the Good Roads State

Major Ports: 2 deep-water ports
Morehead City, Wilmington

Interstate Highways: 5 major interstates
North-South: I77, I85, I95
East-West: I26, I40

Rail Service: more than 3,600-mile rail network; 12 passenger trains operate daily, north-south service: New York to Florida, New York to New Orleans east-west: Raleigh to Charlotte; 16 Amtrak stations in NC

Airports: 3 international, 11 regional

International Airports:
Charlotte/Douglas
Piedmont Triad
Raleigh Durham

Regional Airports:
Asheville
Fayetteville
Greenville
Hickory
Jacksonville
Kinston
New Bern
Rocky Mount
Southern Pines
Wilmington
Winston-Salem

For more information on transportation, contact:
NC Department of Transportation
1 S. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27611
(919)733-2520

Military Installations

- Camp Lejeune Marine Base - Jacksonville
- Cherry Point Marine Air Base - Havelock
- Coast Guard Stations - Elizabeth City, Ft. Macon
- Fort Bragg Army Base - Fayetteville
- Pope Air Force Base - Spring Lake
- Seymour Johnson Air Force Base - Goldsboro

Communication

Daily newspapers: 50+
Weekly newspapers: 130+
Radio Stations: 300+
Television Stations: 30+

NC Information Highway:
broadband telecommunications network; integrated digital fiber network

Government

State Government

North Carolina state government is guided by a state constitution, like the Constitution of the United States. The state constitution says the purpose of government is to serve the people. North Carolina's constitution begins with a preamble, or introduction. The state's constitution also contains a Bill of Rights which lists the rights and freedoms of citizens of the state.

The state Constitution calls for three branches of government: legislative, executive, and judicial.

The legislative branch is called the General Assembly, and it makes the state's laws. The General Assembly is divided into two parts: the Senate and the House of Representatives. Members of both parts are elected by the people. The General Assembly meets in the State Legislative Building in Raleigh.

State Senators: *50; serve 2-year terms*
State Representatives: *120; serve 2-year terms*

The executive branch is headed by the governor. He is called the chief executive of the state and is elected by the people. The governor's job is to carry out state laws. He can suggest new laws to the General Assembly but cannot vote on them. All bills, or plans for new laws, passed by the General Assembly must be sent to the governor. If the governor agrees to a bill and signs it, the bill will become law. If the governor does not sign a bill, it can still become a law after ten days. If the governor opposes a bill, he can veto, or say no to it. The General Assembly can still pass a bill the governor vetoed if three-fifths of the members of both the House and the Senate vote to do so.

Governor: *serves 4-year term; limited to 2 consecutive terms*

The judicial branch is the third part of North Carolina's government. The judicial branch is made up of courts and judges that hear and decide legal cases. The judges make sure that North Carolina laws are used fairly and that they agree with the state constitution. The highest court in North Carolina is the state Supreme Court. It decides cases about the state constitution and the rights and freedoms of the citizens of North Carolina.

North Carolina Supreme Court: *six judges called justices; one head judge called the Chief Justice; serve 8-year terms; elected by voters*

For more information on state government, contact:

Secretary of State
300 N. Salisbury St.
Raleigh, NC 27603 (919)733-4201

General Assembly - Legislative Building
16 West Jones St.
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925 (919)733-4111

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Federal Government

North Carolina sends representatives to the United States Congress to make laws for our country. All states elect U. S. Senators, who represent all the people of the state. North Carolina also elects members to the U. S. House of Representatives. The number of representatives from a state is based on the state's population. North Carolina sends 12 representatives to Congress.

***US Senators**: 2; serve 6-year terms*
***US Representatives**: 12; serve 2-year terms*

North Carolina Congressional Delegation - 105th Congress

United States Senate: Jesse Helms (R)
403 Dirksen Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202)224-6342

Lauch Faircloth (R)
317 Hart Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202)224-3154

United States House of Representatives: Washington, DC 20515

District 1	Eva Clayton (D) 2440 Rayburn Building (202)225-3101	District 7	Mike McIntyre (D) 1605 Longworth Building (202)225-2731
District 2	Bob Etheridge (D) 1641 Longworth Building (202)225-4531	District 8	Bill Hefner (D) 2470 Rayburn House (202)225-3715
District 3	Walter Jones, Jr. (R) 422 Cannon Building (202)225-3415	District 9	Sue Myrick (R) 230 Cannon House (202)225-1976
District 4	David Price (D) 2162 Rayburn Building (202)225-1784	District 10	Cass Ballenger (R) 2181 Rayburn Building (202)225-2576
District 5	Richard Burr (R) 1513 Longworth Building (202)225-2071	District 11	Charles Taylor (D) 231 Cannon House (202)225-6401
District 6	Howard Coble (R) 2239 Rayburn Building (202)225-3065	District 12	Melvin Watt (D) 1230 Longworth (202)225-1510

Local Government

County Government

Counties: 100

County Seat: town or city where county government conducts business (like a state's capital city)

Governing Body: County Board of Commissioners - elected by citizens of county; serve 2-4 year terms; 2-7 member board

Municipal Government

Municipal governments are city or town governments. There are two forms of municipal government in North Carolina: mayor-council and council-manager.

Mayor-Council Form

Mayor: represents the city or town

Council: makes laws for the city

Council-Manager Form

Council: makes plans for the city; appoints a city manager

City Manager: manages all city services; appoints department heads

For more information on county and municipal governments, contact:

NC League of Municipalities
215 N. Dawson St.
Raleigh, NC 27603
(919)834-1311

NC County & City Management Association
PO Box 3069
Raleigh, NC 27602-3069
(919)715-4000

Travel and Tourism

North Carolina is the nation's variety vacation land. Recreational opportunities abound throughout the state. Boating, swimming, saltwater fishing and most other water sports are enjoyed along the North Carolina coast. The mountains offer scenic beauty and a variety of activities, including hiking, golfing, whitewater rafting, and skiing. Horseback riding, boating, fishing and golfing are popular activities in the piedmont region. North Carolina is recognized worldwide for its more than 450 golf courses located throughout the state.

Recreation areas in North Carolina include the Great Smoky Mountain National Park, the Blue Ridge Parkway, Cape Hatteras and Cape Lockout national forests, and 36 state parks and recreation areas. Park facilities include more than 60 public campgrounds. In addition, North Carolina has more than 300 private camping facilities. The North Carolina Zoological Park, the nation's first state operated national-habitat zoo, is located in Asheboro. Other attractions include Carowinds theme park and the Charlotte Motor Speedway.

In 1996 travelers spent $9.8 billion in North Carolina.

For more information about recreation in North Carolina, contact:

NC Travel and Tourism Division
301 N. Wilmington St.
Raleigh, NC 27601
(919)733-8372 or 1-800-VISIT NC

Cultural Activities

North Carolina is a wonderland of cultural and historic activities and sites. Symphonies, museums, summer theaters, and art and crafts festivals are found throughout North Carolina. Some of the state's most popular cultural attractions include the North Carolina Museum of Art, the North Carolina Museum of Natural History, the American Dance Festival, "The Lost Colony," and the North Carolina Symphony.

Historic sites include the Wright Brothers National Memorial, restored Old Salem Village, the Carl Sandburg and Thomas Wolfe homes, Tyron Palace, Biltmore House and Gardens, Roanoke Island, and Cape Hatteras Lighthouse.

For more information about historic and cultural activities, contact:

NC Department of Cultural Resources
Archives/Library Building
109 East Jones St.
Raleigh, NC 27601-2807
(919)733-5722

Education

Public Schools of North Carolina

Schools

Number of Administrative Units (1997-1998)	*Number*	*Percent*
• County Units	100	85.5
• City Units	17	14.5
Total	117	

Number of Public Schools (1997-1998)	*Number*	*Percent*
• Elementary (Grades PK-8)	1,602	79.1
• Secondary (Grades 9-12)	311	15.4
• Combined	111	5.5
Total	2,024	

Number of Charter Schools (1997-1998) 34

Students

Membership (1st Month 1997-1998)	*Public*	*Charter*
• Grades K-8	893,449	4,311
• Grades 9-12	328,214	319
Total	1,221,663	4,630

For more information, contact:
NC Department of Public Instruction
301 N. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2825
(919)715-1246

For information on non-public schools, contact:
Division of Non-Public Education
530 N. Wilmington St., Raleigh, NC 27604-1198
(919)733-4276

Community Colleges

- North Carolina has 58 state community colleges
- 99% of the state's population live within a 30-minute drive of one of the campuses

For more information, contact:
NC Department of Community Colleges
200 W. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27603-1137
(919)-733-7051

Private Colleges & Universities

- North Carolina has 44 private colleges and universities

For more information, contact:
NC Association of Independent Colleges & Universities
879A Washington St., Raleigh, NC 27605
(919)-832-5817

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The University of North Carolina System

Appalachian State University
Boone, NC 29608
(Mountaineers)
828-262-2040

East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858-4353
(Pirates)
252-328-6212

Elizabeth City State University
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
(Vikings)
252-335-3230

Fayetteville State University
Fayetteville, NC 28302
(Broncos)
910-486-1141

NC A & T State University
Greensboro, NC 27411
(Aggies)
336-334-7940

NC Central University
Durham, NC 27707
(Eagles)
919-560-6104

NC School of the Arts
Winston-Salem, NC 27117-2189
336-770-3200

NC State University
Raleigh, NC 27695-7001
(Wolfpack)
919-515-2191

UNC-Asheville
Asheville, NC 28804-3299
(Bulldogs)
828-251-6500

UNC-Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27599
(Tarheels)
919-962-1365

UNC-Charlotte
Charlotte, NC 28223
(49ers)
704-547-2201

UNC-Greensboro
Greensboro, NC 27412
(Spartans)
336-334-5266

UNC-Pembroke
Pembroke, NC 28372
(Braves)
910-521-6201

UNC-Wilmington
Wilmington, NC 28403-3297
(Seahawks)
910-395-3630

Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723
(Catamounts)
828-227-7100

Winston-Salem State University
Winston-Salem, NC 27110
(Rams)
336-750-2041

Land

Area: 52,669 sq. mi.; 28th largest in the nation; 3,954 sq. mi. of inland water
Elevation: Highest - Mount Mitchell, 6,684 ft.
Lowest - sea level along the Atlantic Ocean
Coastline: 301 mi.
Greatest east-west distance: 543 mi. (Manteo to Murphy)
Greatest north-south distance: 188 mi.

Climate

North Carolinians enjoy four distinct seasons, marked by mild to cold winters and warm to hot summers.

Average July temperature: 70 F (21 C)
Average January temperature: 41 F (5 C)
Average yearly precipitation: 44 in. rain; 5 in. snow

North Carolina Firsts

- First English child born in America, Virginia Dare, was born on Roanoke Island on August 18, 1587
- First state university in the United States - University of North Carolina opened in 1795
- First gold nugget found in the United States - Reed Gold Mine in Cabarrus County in 1799
- First interstate railroad opened in 1833 between Blakely in Northampton County and Petersburg, Virginia
- First operating silver mine in the United States - opened in 1838 near Lexington
- First mint in the United States to coin a gold dollar - Bechtler Mint in Rutherford County
- First state governor to be impeached was William Holden - removed from office March 22, 1871 by vote of the state legislature
- First forestry school in the United States - opened in 1898 near Mount Pisgah
- First structure for which Congress appropriated money - Old Cape Hatteras Lighthouse
- First successful powered airplane flight - 1903 by Wright brothers near Kitty Hawk
- First state to establish a soil and water conservation district in 1937

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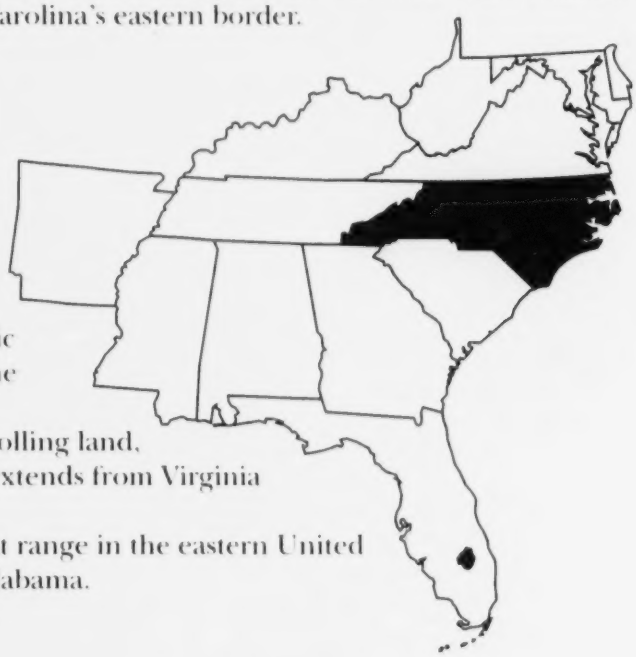
The Geography of North Carolina

Absolute Location: between 33° N and 37° N latitude; between 75° W and 85° W longitude

Relative Location: North Carolina is located in the southeast region of the United States. The state is bordered by Virginia to the north, Tennessee to the west, South Carolina to the south, and Georgia to the southwest. The Atlantic Ocean forms North Carolina's eastern border.



Landforms

There are three distinct landforms of the Southeast and of North Carolina: the **Coastal Plain**, the **Piedmont**, and the **Appalachian Mountains**.

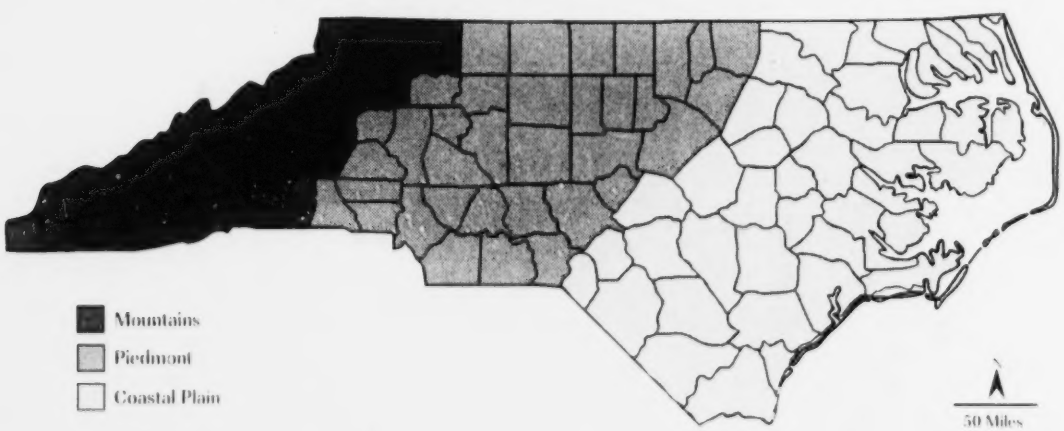
The **Coastal Plain** is low, flat to gently sloping land that extends along the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. Much of the Southeast lies within the Coastal Plain.

The **Piedmont**, characterized by hilly, rolling land, borders the Coastal Plain. The Piedmont extends from Virginia to Alabama.

The **Appalachian Mountains**, the largest range in the eastern United States, stretch from Canada to northern Alabama.

Regions

The three landforms of North Carolina make up the three major geographic regions of the state: the **Coastal Plain**, the **Piedmont**, and the **Mountains**.



Coastal Plain

North Carolina's Coastal Plain is low, flat land along the Atlantic Ocean. It is often divided into two parts - the **Outer Coastal Plain** and **the Inner Coastal Plain.**

The **Outer Coastal Plain** is made up of the **Outer Banks** and the **Tidewater** region. The **Outer Banks** are a string of barrier islands separated from the mainland by sounds or inlets. The largest islands in the Outer Banks are Bodie, Hatteras, Ocracoke, Portsmouth, and the Core Banks. Three capes are part of the Outer Banks: Cape Hatteras, Cape Lookout, and Cape Fear. Near these capes are dangerous shoals, or underwater sandbars which are hazards to ships. Cape Hatteras is known as the Graveyard of the Atlantic because shifting sand has caused many ships to run aground. The Outer Banks stretch more than 175 miles along the coast.

The **Tidewater** is the area along the coast close to sea level. The mouths of the major streams and rivers empty into sounds or the ocean. There are seven sounds in the Tidewater region: Pamlico, Albemarle, Currituck, Croatan, Roanoke, Core, and Bogue Sounds. This region has many low-lying areas called wetlands, where water covers the land. The Great Dismal Swamp, a series of swamps scattered from Virginia, to North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, is North Carolina's largest wetland area. It covers about 750 square miles, making it one of the largest swamps in the United States. The Tidewater is the only place in the world where the Venus' flytrap plant grows naturally.

The **Inner Coastal Plain**, a higher, drier area, begins west of the Tidewater. The rich, sandy soil here is some of the state's best farmland. In the southwestern corner of the Inner Coastal Plain are the Sandhills, a subregion of rolling, sandy hills. This area has the highest elevation on the Coastal Plain, ranging from about 900 to 1,000 feet above sea level. Longleaf pines are native to this area.

The Piedmont

The Piedmont is the middle region of the state, located between the Coastal Plain and the Mountain regions. *Piedmont* is a French word meaning "foot of the mountain." The elevations of this region range from about 300 feet in the western Coastal Plain to about 1,500 feet near the mountains. The boundary between the Coastal Plain and the Piedmont is called the fall line or fall zone. Along this area, rivers flow from the older, harder rocks of the Piedmont to the softer rocks of the Coastal Plain. Along the fall line, rivers form shoals, low waterfalls, and rapids. Below the fall line, streams are usually sluggish and smooth-flowing. Above the fall line, the streams are rocky and shallow, making boating difficult. The land of the Piedmont is called a plateau because it is high and mostly flat.

The Mountains

The western part of the state is the Mountain region. It is much smaller in area than the Piedmont and Coastal Plain. The elevation in this region reaches to more than one mile high. The Blue Ridge Mountains separate the Piedmont from the Mountain region. Other ranges in the Mountain region include the Bald, Balsam, Black, Brushy, Great Smoky, Iron, Pisgah, Stone, and Unaka. All of these ranges are part of the larger Appalachian Mountains, possibly the oldest mountains in the United States. North Carolina has at least 40 mountains that rise to 6,000 feet and 100 that rise more than 5,000 feet. Mount Mitchell in the Black Mountain range is 6,684 feet high. This is the highest point in North Carolina and the highest in the United States east of the Mississippi River. The Eastern Continental Divide runs along the top of the Blue Ridge Mountains. This is a ridge that separates the rivers flowing east from those flowing west. Rivers on the eastern side of the divide flow east toward the Atlantic Ocean. Rivers that run on the western side of the divide flow toward the Tennessee and Ohio rivers and into the Gulf of Mexico.

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A Sampling of Famous North Carolinians

Astronauts:
Mike Smith
Dr. William Thornton

Educators:
Charlotte Hawkins Brown
Annie Wealthy Holland
W. L. Moore (Waccamaw-Siouan)
N. C. Newbold
Oscar R. Sampson (Lumbee)
Sequoyah (Cherokee)

Entertainers:
Howard Cosell
Roberta Flack
Eileen Fulton
Ava Gardner
Andy Griffith
Ronnie Milsap
James Taylor
Doc Watson

Literature:
Doris Betts
O. Henry
Guy Owen
Betty Smith
Thomas Wolfe

Media:
David Brinkley
Charles Kuralt
Edward R. Murrow
Tom Wicker
Edwin Yoder

Religion:
Billy Graham

Baseball:
"Catfish" Hunter
Gaylord Perry
Jim Perry

Basketball:
Phil Ford
Bobby Jones
Michael Jordan
Meadowlark Lemon
Danny Manning
Pete Maravich
Curley Neal
Dominique Wilkins
James Worthy

Boxing:
Sugar Ray Leonard

Football:
Kelvin Bryant
Roman Gabriel
Sonny Jergenson

Stock Car:
Dale Earnhardt
Junior Johnson
Lee, Richard, and
Kyle Petty

Pulitzer Prize Winners:
Paul Green
Hatcher Hughes
Reynolds Price
Vermont Royster

US Presidents:
Andrew Jackson (7th)
James K. Polk (11th)
Andrew Johnson (17th)

State Name and Nicknames

In the 1660s England established a royal colony called Carolina in the New World. The colony was named for King Charles I of England. The word Carolina is from the word Carolus, the Latin form of Charles.

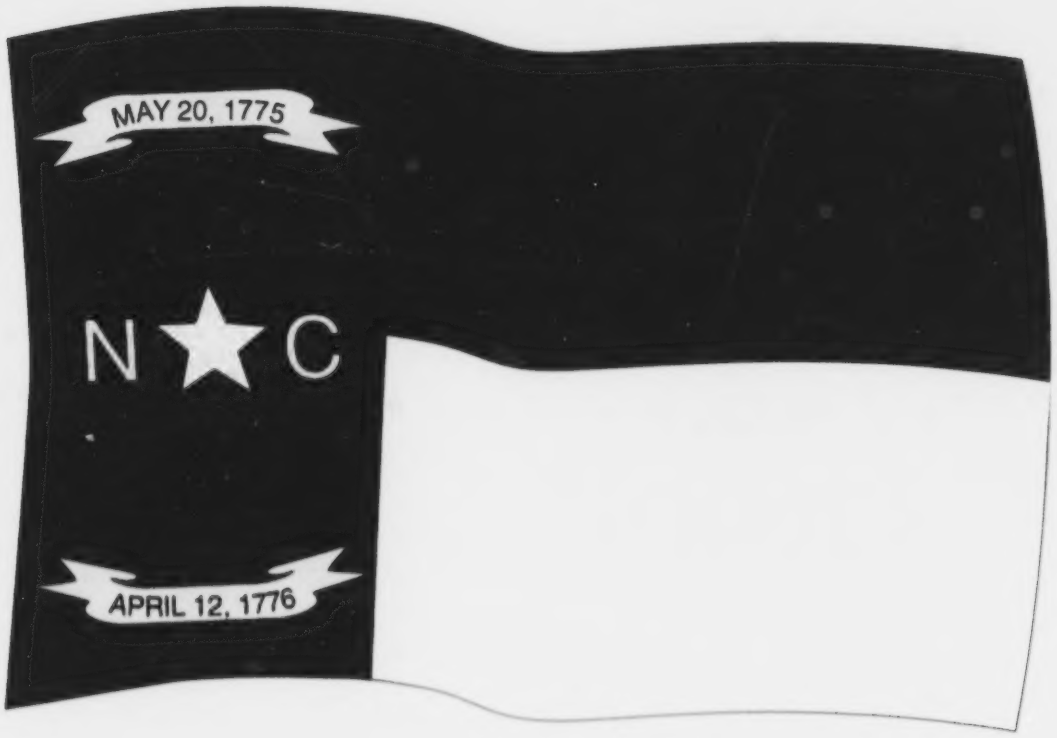
When Carolina was divided in the early 1700s, the southern part was called South Carolina and the northern or older settlement was called North Carolina, or the "Old North State." This title, the Old North State, is one nickname often given to the state. A song by that title is the official state song.

North Carolina is also known as the Tar Heel State. There are several stories about how the state got this nickname. One story refers to the state's early production of naval stores, the tar and pitch from pine trees used to waterproof wooden ships. Workers cut pine trees to collect the sticky sap called pitch. Tar was drained from burning logs and saved for use on ships also. One story claims that workers got tar on their feet as they worked and were called Tar Heels. Because of the production of naval stores from pine trees, some people called North Carolina the Pine Tree State.

Another story about the origin of the nickname Tar Heels dates back to the Civil War. Supposedly, some troops from other states were driven off the battlefield during a battle, leaving the North Carolinians to fight the Yankees alone. After the battle, some passing soldiers asked, "Any more tar down in the Old North State, boys?" A quick reply followed. "No, not a bit. Old Jeff (referring to Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy) bought it all up." "Is that so? What is he going to do with it?" was asked. "He's going to put it on you-uns heels to make you stick better in the next fight." After hearing about the incident, General Robert E. Lee was said to have commented, "God bless the Tar Heel boys!" Like the tar, the nickname Tar Heels stuck after that.

(Adapted *from Grandfather Tales of North Carolina* by R. B. Creecy and *Histories of North Carolina Regiments*, Vol. III, by Walter Clark)

The State Flag of North Carolina



The state flag is divided into three rectangles, two horizontal and one vertical. The upper right rectangle is red and the lower right rectangle is white. The entire background of the rectangle on the left is dark blue. The ribbons and the letters ***N*** and ***C*** are gold. The dates on the ribbons are dark blue. The star is white.

The state flag, adopted in 1885, displays two dates. May 20, 1775 is the date thought to have been when the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence was issued. This document made a bold statement in favor of independence for the colonies. It stated that English laws were no longer in effect in Mecklenburg County. April 12, 1776 is the date of the Halifax Resolves. In this document, North Carolina authorized its delegates to the Continental Congress to vote for independence from England. These dates celebrate the fact that North Carolina was the first colony to declare its independence from England well before the famous July 4, 1776 date.

The State Seal of North Carolina

North Carolina has had a seal for use on official documents since the days of the Lords Proprietors. Shortly after they were issued their charter in 1663, the Lords Proprietors adopted a seal which was used on all their official papers for Carolina. This seal featured the coats-of-arms of the eight Lords on one side.

About 1665 the government of Albemarle was organized and it adopted, with some modifications, the 1663 seal. It was first used for the government of the county of Albemarle, and then became the seal of the Province of North Carolina. This seal was used from 1665 to 1730.

When North Carolina was purchased by the Crown in 1729, the old "Albemarle" seal was no longer appropriate so the king ordered that a new seal be prepared. This seal of the Province of North Carolina was used from 1730 to 1767. At a council held in New Bern in 1767, Governor Tryon introduced a new seal to be used in sealing all patents and grants of lands and all public instruments passed in the king's name for service within the province.

In 1776, an ordinance was passed by the Provincial Congress at Halifax appointing three commissioners to procure a Great Seal for the State of North Carolina, but no record of a report being made by them was found. In 1778, a bill was introduced in the general assembly held in New Bern that "William Tisdale, Esq., be and he is hereby appointed to cut and engrave a Seal, under the Direction of his Excellency the Governor, for the use of the State..."

When the government of the State of North Carolina was organized, the constitution adopted at Halifax in 1776 provided, "That there shall be a Seal of this State; which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him as occasion may require; and shall be called the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina, be affixed to all grants and commissions."

In 1792, the general assembly meeting again in New Bern authorized that a new seal "be prepared with only one side..." This was a major change, since all other seals had been two-sided. Other major changes were made in 1835, 1893, and 1971. The most recent alteration was made in 1983 when the April 12, 1776 date was added at the bottom to commemorate the Halifax Resolves.

The current seal features two women, Plenty and Liberty. Liberty is the lady on the left holding a scroll in her right hand. On the scroll is written the word "Constitution." In her left hand, Liberty holds a pole with the cap of liberty on top of it. Plenty sits on the right with three heads of wheat in her right hand. From her left hand to her feet is a cornucopia, or horn of plenty, containing fruits and vegetables. There is a three-masted ship on a body of water in the background and mountains running left to right to the middle of the seal.

The date April 12, 1776 is inscribed just below the women. This is the date of the Halifax Resolves, the document which gave North Carolina's delegates to the Continental Congress the authority to vote for independence. Within the inner circle above the heads of the women is the date May 20, 1775. This is thought to be the date of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. This document was a bold statement in favor of independence from England for the colonies. Around the upper perimeter of the seal is the inscription, "The Great Seal of the State of North Carolina." The state motto, "Esse Quam Videri," which is Latin meaning "To be rather than to seem," is a the bottom of the seal in this outer circle.

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THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
MAY 20. 1775
CONSTI-
TUTION
APRIL 12. 1776
ESSE QUAM VIDERI

The State Song

"The Old North State," was adopted as the official song of the state of North Carolina by the General Assembly of 1927. The words were written by William Gaston and the music was collected and arranged by Mrs. E. E. Randolph.

The Old North State

Carolina! Carolina! heaven's blessings attend her,
While we live we will cherish, protect, and defend her,
Tho' the scorner may sneer at and witlings defame her,
Still our hearts swell with gladness when ever we name her.

Chorus:
Hurrah! Hurrah! the Old North State forever,
Hurrah! Hurrah! the good Old North State.

Tho' she envies not others, their merited glory,
Say whose name stands the foremost, in liberty's story,
Tho' too true to herself e'er to crouch to oppression,
Who can yield to just rule a more loyal submission.

(Repeat chorus)

Then let all those who love us, love the land that we live in,
As happy a region as on this side of heaven,
Where plenty and peace, love and joy smile before us,
Raise aloud, raise together the heart thrilling chorus.

(Repeat chorus)

30

THE OLD NORTH STATE

(Traditional air as sung in 1926)

WILLIAM GASTON

Collected and arranged by MRS. E. E. RANDOLPH

With spirit
1. Car-o-li-na! Car-o-li-na! heav-en's bless-ings at-tend her,
2. Tho' she en-vies not oth-ers, their mer-it-ed glo-ry,
3. Then let all those who love us, love the land that we live in,
While we live we will cher-ish, pro-tect and de-fend her, Tho' the
Say whose name stands the fore-most, in lib-er-ty's sto-ry, Tho' too
As hap-py a re-gion as on this side of heav-en, Where
scorn-er may sneer at and wit-lings de-fame her, Still our hearts swell with
true to her self ever to crouch to op-pres-sion, Who can yield to just
plen-ty and peace, love and joy smile be-fore us, Raise a-loud, raise to-
CHORUS
glad-ness when ev-er we name her.
rule a more loy-al sub-mis-sion. Hur-rah! Hur-rah! the
geth-er the heart thrill-ing cho-rus.
rit
Old North State for-ev-er, Hur-rah! Hur-rah! the good Old North State.

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The State Toast

This poem, composed in 1904 by Leonora Martin and Mary Burke Kerr, was officially adopted as the toast of North Carolina by the General Assembly of 1957.

Here's to the land of the long leaf pine,
The summer land where the sun doth shine,
Where the weak grow strong and the strong grow great,
Here's to "Down Home," the Old North State!

Here's to the land of the cotton bloom white,
Where the scuppernong perfumes the breeze at night,
Where the soft southern moss and jessamine mate,
'Neath the murmuring pines of the Old North State!

Here's to the land where the galax grows,
Where the rhododendron's rosette glows,
Where soars Mount Mitchell's summit great,
In the "Land of the Sky," in the Old North State!

Here's to the land where maidens are fair,
Where friends are true and cold hearts rare,
The near land, the dear land whatever fate,
The blest land, the best land, the Old North State!

Highlights from History
in North Carolina

1500's	Three major Native American language families exist in what is now North Carolina: Algonquian, Iroquoina, and Siouan
1524	Giovanni de Verrazzano explored the North Carolina coast
1526	Spanish and Africans led by Lucas Vasquez de Ayllon attempt to start a colony on the Roanoke River
1540	Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto explored southwestern North Carolina in search of gold
1584	Sir Walter Raleigh sends Amadas and Barlowe to explore North Carolina
1585	English establish their first colony at Roanoke Island
1587	Second group of colonists - The Lost Colony - arrives on Roanoke Island
1663	King Charles II gave Carolina to the eight Lords Proprietors
1705	Bath founded - first town in North Carolina
1711	Tuscarora Indian war in North Carolina
1729	North Carolina became a royal colony
1770	Tryon Palace completed
1774	Edenton Tea Party
1775	Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence
1776	Halifax Resolves; Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge
1781	Battle of Guilford Courthouse
1789	North Carolina becomes 12th state
1792	Raleigh becomes state capital
1795	First state university, the University of North Carolina, opened

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Highlights from History continued

1799	Gold discovered in North Carolina - Reed Gold Mine
1813	First cotton mill in North Carolina
1818	First steamboat in North Carolina
1828	Andrew Jackson became 7th president of the United States; Dismal Swamp Canal completed
1838	First operating live mine in the United States opened near Lexington; Cherokee Indians are forced west along the "Trail of Tears"
1840	First steam-powered locomotive completed in North Carolina; First public school open in North Carolina
1845	James K. Polk becomes 11th president of the United States
1865	Andrew Johnson becomes 17th president of the United States
1877	North Carolina organizes Department of Agriculture
1888	First furniture-making factory in High Point
1901	Governor Charles B. Aycock began campaign to improve public schools
1903	Wright Brothers make first successful flight at Kitty Hawk
1918	Fort Bragg established
1921	State highway system begins
1940	Great Smoky Mountains National Park dedicated
1959	Research Triangle Park opened
1960	Greensboro sit-in
1971	New state constitution went into effect
1974	North Carolina Zoological Park opens
1987	Blue Ridge Parkway completed
1990	Interstate 40 completed

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North Carolina Counties

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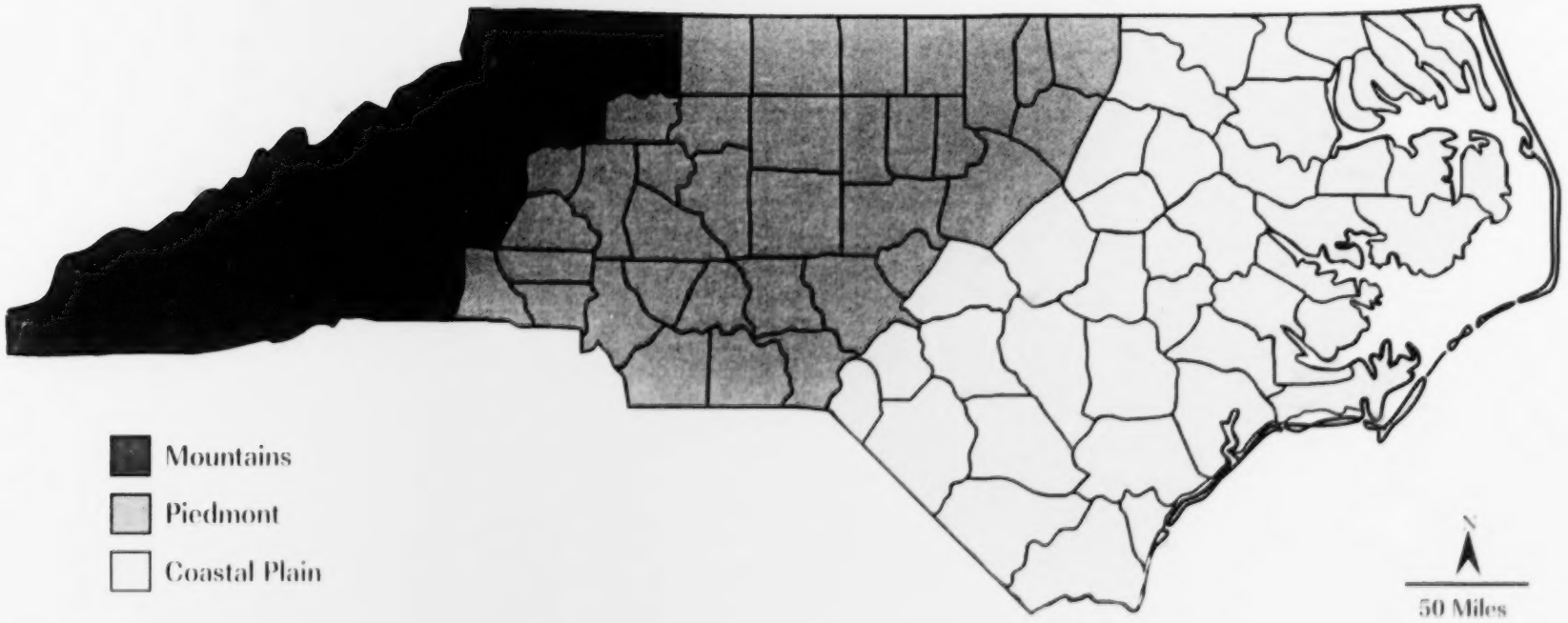
North Carolina Regions



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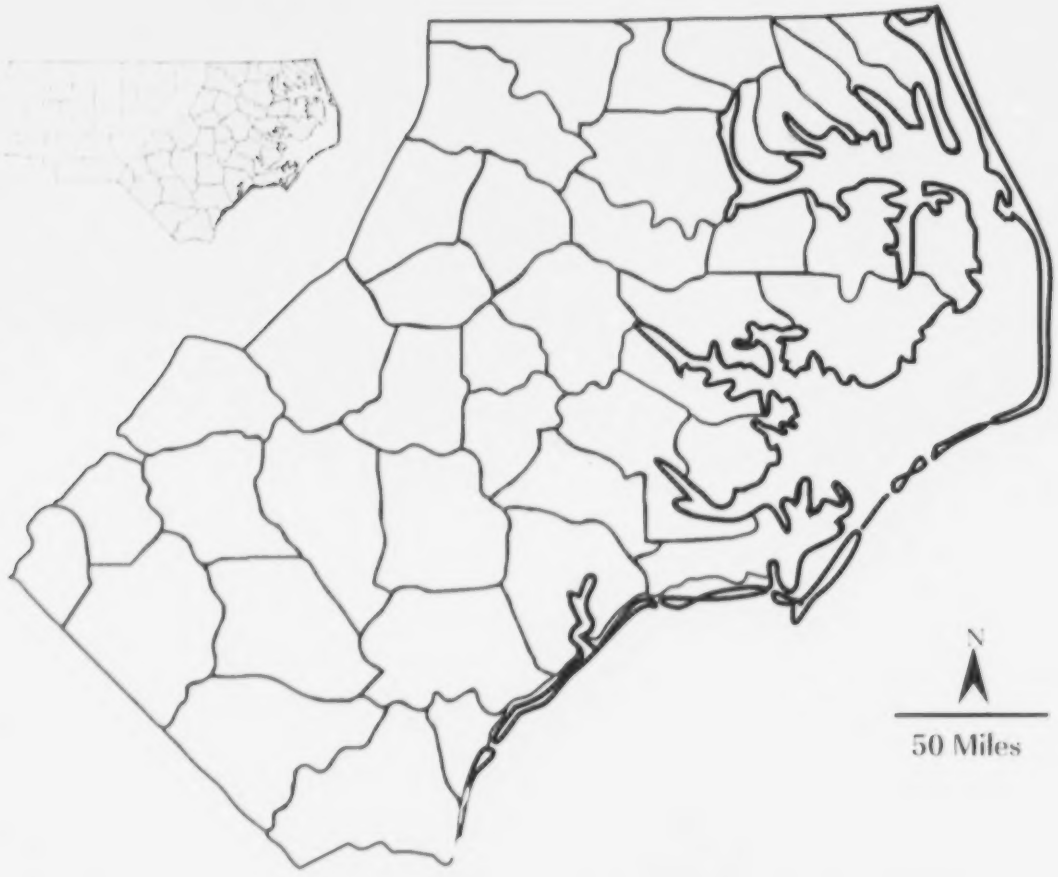
North Carolina Piedmont Counties

North Carolina Coastal Plain Counties



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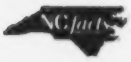
North Carolina Mountain Counties

North Carolina Counties



North Carolina Websites

"Carolina Clips." Online. Internet. 10 February 1997.
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/
The purpose of **Carolina Clips** is to provide North Carolina's K-12 students and educators in grades four and eight in particular, with pictures and information related to North Carolina topics. Permission has been granted for the use of all pictures and data for educational purposes. The first three areas to be covered include: North Carolina's lighthouses; western North Carolina's waterfalls; and historical sites in Raleigh.

"North Carolina's Waterfalls"
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/default.html

"Western North Carolina"
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/Western2.html

Alexander County
Crystal Falls
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/alex.html

Avery County
Elk Falls
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/avery.html

Burke County
Linville Falls
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wLalls/burke.htlm

Haywood County
Mouse Creek Falls
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/mousecreekfalls. html
Yellowstone Falls
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/yellowstonefalls.html

Jackson County
Grassy Creek Falls
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/jackson.html

Macon County
Cullasaja Falls
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/macon.html

Polk County
Shunkawauken Falls
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/shunkawaukenfalls.html
Pearson's Falls
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/Pearsonsonsfalls.html

Rutherford County
Hickory Nut Falls
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/rutherford.html

Transylvania County

Twin Falls

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/twinfalls.html

Courthouse Falls

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/courthousefalls.html

Looking Glass Falls

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/lookingglassfalls.html

Drift Falls

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/driftfalls.html

Connestee Falls

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/connesteefalls.html

Moore Cove Falls

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/moorecovefalls.html

John's Jump Falls

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/johnsjumpfalls.html

Laurel Falls

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/laurelfalls.html

Watauga County

Hebron Colony Falls

http://www. itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/watauga.html

Wilkes County

Moravian Falls

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/wfalls/wilkes.html

"Map of Raleigh Tour"

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/raleigh/default./html

North Carolina Executive Mansion

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/raleigh/execmansion.html

State Capitol

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/raleigh/capitol.html

State Legislative Building

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/raleigh/legbuilding.html

North Carolina Museum of Natural History

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/raleigh/naturalsci.html

North Carolina Museum of History

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/raleigh/nchistory.html

Education Building

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/raleigh/edbuilding.html

"North Carolina Lighthouses"

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/homepage.html

Currituck Beach Lighthouse

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/currituck.html

Bodie Island Lighthouse

http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/bodie.html

Cape Hatteras Lighthouse
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/hatteras.html
Diamond Shoals Light Tower
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/diamond.html
Oracoke Island Lighthouse
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/ocracoke.html
Cape Lookout Lighthouse
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/raleigh.html
Price's Creek Lighthouse
http://www.itpi.dpi.state. nc.us/caroclips/pricescreek.html
Bald Head Lighthouse
http://www.itpi.dpi. state. nc.us/caroclips/bald.html
Frying Pan Shoals Light Tower
http://www.itpi.dpi. state. nc.us/caroclips/fryingpan.html
Oak Island Lighthouse
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/caroclips/oakisland.html

Copyright and Fair Use Web site
http://fairuse.stanford.ecu/

Copyright Questions and Answers
http://web.capco.com/capco/QACopyright.html

Guide to African-American Documentary Resources in North Carolina
http://www.upress.virginia.ecu/
An overview of the terrain of African-American holdings in North Carolina

K-12 Sources: Curriculum & Lesson Plans
http://execpc.com/~dboals/k- 12.html

North Carolina General Assembly
http://www.ncga.state.nc.us

North Carolina State Library (NC Encyclopedia)
http://hal.dcr.state.nc.us/ncslhome.html

"North Carolina Virtual Visits" Online. Internet. 2 February 1997.
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/vvisits/
The purpose of **"Virtual Visits"** is to provide North Carolina's K-12 students and educators, in grades four and eight in particular, with a virtual 360 visits of interesting sites around North Carolina. The first area to be covered will be state government sites in Raleigh. Users will be able to tour Raleigh's state government sites and view pictures, maps, text, and QTVR movies of each site. Permission has been granted for the use of all pictures and data for educational purposes.

Virtual Visits (Large Map, Close-up Map View, Visitor Center, Capitol, Legislative Building, Executive Mansion)
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/vvisits/vv.html
Trip Planner
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/vvisits/tripplan.html
Virtual Visits' Teasers
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/vvisits/teasers.html

The Executive Mansion
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/vvisits/teasexec.html
The State Capitol
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/vvisits/teascap.html
The Legislative Building
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/vvisits/teasleg.html
The Museum of Natural Science
The Museum of History

Virtual Visits Activities File
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/vvisits/activities.html

Bicentennial Detective
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/vvisits/bicdetec.html
Your 1792 Counterparts
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/vvisits/cuntr1792.html
Governors of North Carolina
http://www.itpi.dpi.state.nc.us/vvisits/governor.html

NC Division of Tourism, Film & Sports Development
http://www.visitnc.com
Contains *The Official 1998 North Carolina Travel Guide*

State Library of North Carolina
http://hal.dcr.state.nc.us/ncslhome.html
Contains the *North Carolina Encyclopedia*

State of North Carolina – Public Information
http://www.sips.state.nc.us/
Leads to a plethora of data about North Carolina

Understanding and Using the Internet
http://www.pbs.org/uti/

Search Engines

AltaVista
http://www.altavista.digital.com/

Lycos
http://www.lycos.com/

Metacrawler
http://www.muw.ecu/search.html

Yahoo!
http://www.yahoo.com/

Yahooligans! (Yahoo for Kids)
http://www.yahooligans.com/

* At the time of the compilation of this list, these websites existed and were up-to-date. The Division of Tourism, Film & Sports Development cannot guarantee their currency today. Educators must remember that information may be placed on the Internet by anyone at anytime. There is no way of insuring quality and accuracy of information.

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